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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

DDI #05470-84

24 SEP 1984  
1 Jerry Jacobson

2. File- Gates Project.  
(+ DCI's comment)  
filed

21 September 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: National Foreign Intelligence Board Principals  
SUBJECT : Senior Review Panel Review of Estimates

1. The DCI has recently sent to the President an evaluation by the Senior Review Panel of 46 intelligence estimates produced during the first six months of 1982 and the first six months of 1983. The Panel is composed of former Ambassador to Yugoslavia William Leonhart, retired General William McCaffrey, former Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs Willis Armstrong, and Herbert Rothenberg, a distinguished scientist. 25X1

2. The Director has asked me to forward to you a copy of the SRP report. The report finds that 1982-83 estimative production was "of extremely high quality and forecast validity and policymaker utility." It further states that 1982 and 1983 production would -- in their experience -- have met most policymaker needs in timeliness, policy issue relevance, analytic quality, readability and estimative judgment. Overall, as policymaking support, the Panel reports that it would regard two-thirds to three-quarters of the papers as "superior to outstanding," with the percentage rising as one moves from 1982 to 1983. Of the 46 estimates, they cite only one they considered failed, a June, 1982 estimate which predicted Iran's victory over Iraq. 25X1

3. Both the Director and I believe you and your senior staff may find the SRP review of interest and value. This very positive report is a reflection of the high quality of effort being contributed across the entire Community at all levels. 25X1

*Robert M. Gates*  
Robert M. Gates

Chairman, National Intelligence Council

Attachment:

NIC 05182-84, dtd 10Sept84

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CI By Signer  
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